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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Reconstruction at Stendal Airfield

DATE DISTR. 18 OCT 1957

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report on

Stendal airfield which gives information under the following headings:
 (1) Runway/Taxiway Details, (2) Fifty-meter Wide Hardstanding, (3) Target Date, (4) Air Traffic Control Tower, (5) SAF Construction Unit, (6) Excavation in NE Corner of Airfield, (7) Renovation of Former Luftwaffe Fuel Installations, (8) Permanent Water Pump House, (9) Airfield Rail Spur, (10) Airfield Hangars, and (11) SAF Occupation.

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STATE	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	AEC						
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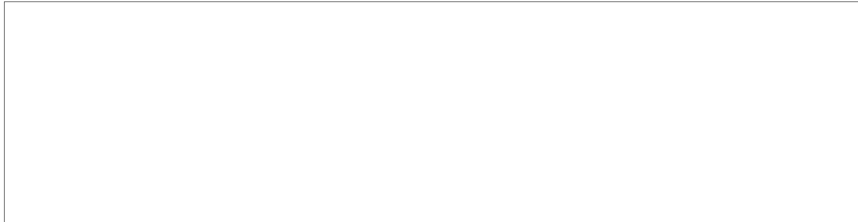
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EAST GERMANY

AIR

STENDAL AIRFIELD - Reconstruction progress as at 20 Sep 57

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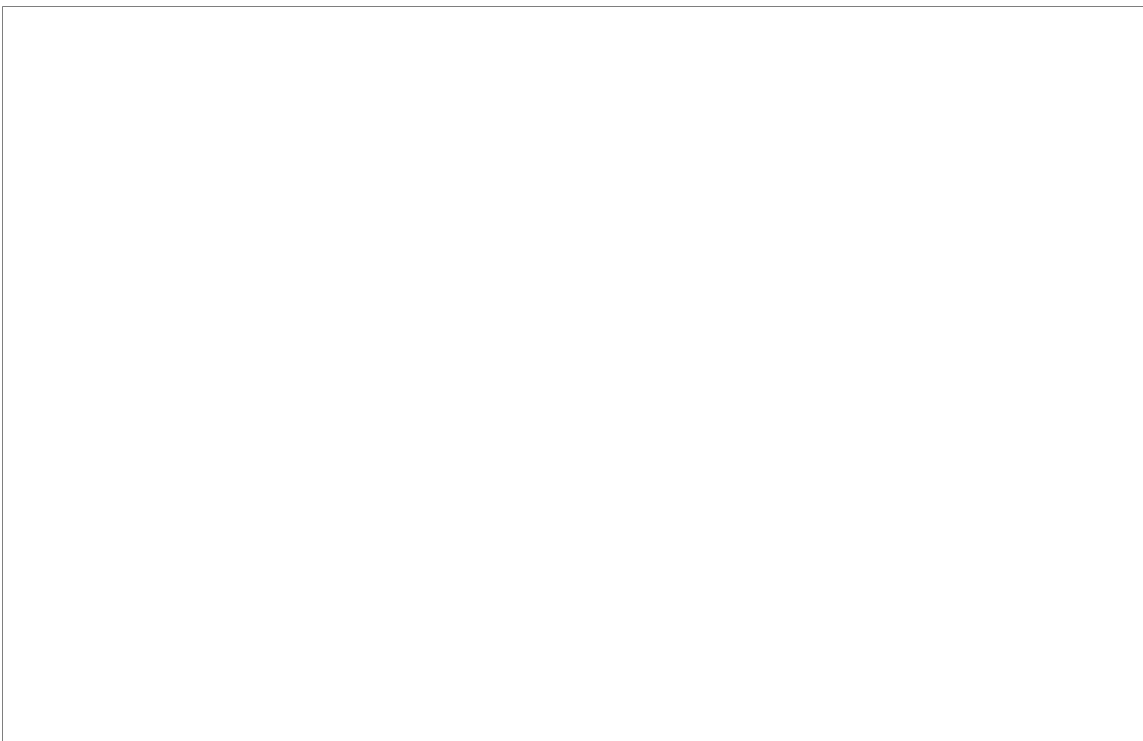
1.

RUNWAY/TAXIWAY DETAILS

- (a) The replacement of the faulty sections in the runway has now been completed and the northern parallel taxiway has been fully concreted.

The runway and the four transverse tracks have all been cleaned by a special mechanical sweeper, brought to the airfield from EAST BERLIN.

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50X1-HUM3. TARGET DATE

The target date set by the Russian authorities for the completion of all concreting on the airfield has been set for 30 Sep 57. The BAU UNION BRANDENBURG authorities anticipate that this date will be met - failing any faults appearing in the taxiway and other newly laid surfaces.

4. AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER

- (a) The former Air Traffic Control Tower located at MR 91253570 is being evacuated by the BAU UNION BRANDENBURG, who have been using it as a headquarters site. This building is in a very good state of repair and is centrally heated.
- (b) From the upper floor of this building there is a clear, unobstructed view of the airfield landing surface in an easterly and southerly direction only. The western end of the new runway is obscured by the sparsely wooded area located around the mixing site at MR 90753530, as well as by the distinct fall-away of the runway at this end.

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5. S.A.F. CONSTRUCTION UNIT

A small S.A.F. construction unit arrived on the airfield during early September 1957. This unit, with its heavy grading equipment and bulldozers, is engaged on levelling and preparing the ground adjoining the runway and taxiway/transverse tracks for grass seeding at a later date.

6. EXCAVATION IN NE CORNER OF AIRFIELD

The previously reported excavation located at MR 91853575 has been abandoned and is now being used as a dump for debris, etc. from the runway area. No other excavations have been observed anywhere in the airfield built-up area or landing area.

7. RENOVATION OF FORMER LUFTWAFFE FUEL INSTALLATIONS

The BAU UNION MAGDEBURG has been sub-contracted by the BAU UNION BRANDENBURG to undertake the overhauling of the existing former Luftwaffe underground fuel storage tanks and their associated underground pipelines. The development of the main airfield fuel depot on the site of the existing mixing site will begin as soon as concreting has been completed and the associated mixing equipment and cement storage shed have been removed. The wooded area situated in the NW corner of the airfield remains inactive and there are no signs of any development or construction of any sort.

8. PERMANENT WATER PUMP HOUSE

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There is a permanent underground water pump house located approximately south of and approximately mid-way along the runway. The main water supply from STENDAL passes through this pump house, the pipe lines (details unknown) proceeding under the runway in the direction of the mixing site and then onwards to the airfield built-up area.

There is an alternative direct underground water pipeline extending between STENDAL and the airfield built-up area, this system proceeding along the eastern perimeter of the airfield.

9. AIRFIELD RAIL SPUR

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At the terminal of the airfield rail spur at approximately MR 908353 there is an extensive concrete ramp (see insert to main sketch attached).

This final portion of railway track which extends beyond the mixing site at MR 90753530 appears to be of a permanent construction - the sleepers being of wood in good condition and the track is properly ballasted.

10. AIRFIELD HANGARS

- (a) The two former Luftwaffe aircraft hangars located at MRs 910357 and 91353575 appear to be fully serviceable. They both have curved roofs and the main doors are of the folding concertina type. The overhead cranes extending along the inside of each hangar have been repaired and a maximum carrying weight of 3000 kilos is painted on the wall below.
- (b) Extending along both sides of each hangar there is a line of small offices, light workshops, battery charging rooms, etc.
- (c) No new construction is currently being undertaken anywhere in the main built-up area of the airfield.

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11. S.A.F. OCCUPATION

Three green-coloured helicopters have been observed parked in the SE corner of the airfield landing area on numerous occasions during September '57.

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